## <u>Patent</u>

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified). A copy of each foreign patent document listed is enclosed herewith. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) (2) (ii).

The documents listed were cited in the Japanese Office Action for Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-517235 dated July 28, 2008. A copy of the Office Action is enclosed herewith.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

This IDS is being submitted after receiving a Final Rejection. The references listed in this IDS should be fully considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97. Therefore, official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered on the merits. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025 \$180.00 (or any other required amount) which is the fee set forth in which is the fee set forth in § 1.17 (p).

Information Disclosure Statement USSN 10/088,258 September 16, 2008 Page 2

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via electronic filing on <a href="September 16">September 16</a>, 2008 by <a href="Guillermo Gonzalez">Guillermo Gonzalez</a>.

Respectfully submitted,
/Robert Popa 43,010/

Robert Popa Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 43,010

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
copy of each foreign patent document listed
copy of Office Action